WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Federal Aviation Administration has announced several grants this month for area airports.

"A smooth transportation system is vital to our economic growth, and these grants improve and extend the life of our local airports," said Congressman Sam Farr (D-Carmel).

Local grants awarded this month:

Monterey Peninsula Airport: \$2,361,413. Funds will be used to design runway safety area improvements to Runway10R/28L including constructing a retaining wall, access road and engineered material arresting system.

Salinas Municipal Airport: \$2,115,000. Funds will be used for the phased reconstruction of parallel Taxiway B. The project is necessary to improve the poor condition of the pavement and to meet current standards.

Mesa Del Rey Airport (King City): \$484,750. Funds will be used to install perimeter fencing, a precision approach path indicator, runway end identifier lighting system on Runway 11/29 and a lighted windcone. The perimeter fencing is necessary to control unauthorized access and to reduce wildlife intrusion, and the other improvements will enhance safety of aircraft operations during low visibility conditions. Currently, there is no visual guidance system at the airport. Watsonville Municipal Airport: \$52,250. Funds will be used to conduct a pavement maintenance management plan survey, necessary to establish a program to improve and extend the service life of the airport's pavement.

Hollister Municipal Airport: \$30,000. Funds will be used to conduct a pavement maintenance management plan survey, necessary to establish a program to improve and extend the service life of the airport's pavement.

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